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86378 7590 07/08/2010

Pearne & Gordon LLP
1801 East 9th Street
Suite 1200
Cleveland, OH 44114-3108

EXAMINER

MENON, KRISHNAN S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1797

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/708,774

03/24/2004

Juergen Dannenmaier

GAMB-42881US1

2773

TITLE OF INVENTION: FILTER DEVICE HAVING MORE THAN ONE FILTRATION COMPARTMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	10/08/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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86378 7590 07/08/2010

Pearne & Gordon LLP
1801 East 9th Street
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Cleveland, OH 44114-3108

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/708,774 03/24/2004 Juergen Dannenmaier GAMB-42881US1 2773

TITLE OF INVENTION: FILTER DEVICE HAVING MORE THAN ONE FILTRATION COMPARTMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1510 \$300 \$0 \$1810 10/08/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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MENON, KRISHNAN S 1797 210-321600

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,774	03/24/2004	Juergen Dannenmaier	GAMB-42881US1	2773
86378	7590	07/08/2010	EXAMINER	
Pearne & Gordon LLP 1801 East 9th Street Suite 1200 Cleveland, OH 44114-3108			MENON, KRISHNAN S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1797	
DATE MAILED: 07/08/2010				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1596 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1596 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/708,774

Applicant(s)

DANNENMAIER ET AL.

Examiner

Krishnan S. Menon

Art Unit

1797

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE 6/16/10.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-12,14,15 and 33-43.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John Murtaugh on 6/30/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

List of amended claims appear on a fresh page below.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) A filter device comprising a housing, said housing enclosing at least two fluid filtration compartments, each filtration compartment comprising at least one filter membrane having a first surface and a second surface, said first surface of each filter membrane being in fluid communication with at least one fluid flow port, said second surface being in fluid communication with at least one fluid flow port, adjacent filtration compartments being separated from each other by an internal wall, said housing comprising at least two longitudinally extending shell portions, one of said longitudinally extending shell portions of the housing describing less than one half of the perimeter of said housing, wherein said internal wall comprises a first part and a second part, said first part being attached to a first longitudinally extending shell portion and said second part being attached to a second longitudinally extending shell portion, said first part having a free edge and said second part having a free edge, said free edges being configured to join to each other.

11. (original) The filter device of Claim 10, wherein each longitudinally extending shell portions has two longitudinal edges, the longitudinal edges of adjacent shell portions being configured to join to each other, and wherein the free edge of a wall part attached to a shell portion is not coplanar with the longitudinal edges of said shell portion.

12. (original) The filter device of Claim 11 wherein a larger one of said longitudinally extending shell portions of the housing describes more than one half of the perimeter of said housing and wherein said free edge of said wall part attached to said larger shell portion extends beyond a plane containing said longitudinal edges of said larger shell portion.

13. (cancelled)

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14. (previously presented) A filter device comprising a housing, said housing enclosing at least two fluid filtration compartments, each filtration compartment comprising at least one filter membrane having a first surface and a second surface, said first surface of each filter membrane being in fluid communication with at least one fluid flow port, said second surface being in fluid communication with at least one fluid flow port, adjacent filtration compartments being separated from each other by an internal wall, said housing comprising at least two longitudinally extending shell portions, one of said longitudinally extending shell portions of the housing describing less than one half of the perimeter of said housing; wherein one of said longitudinally extending shell portions has a first refractive index and another of said longitudinally extending shell portions has a second refractive index, said first refractive index being different from said second refractive index.

15. (original) The filter device of Claim 14 wherein said one of said longitudinally extending shell portions is comprised of polycarbonate and said another of said longitudinally extending shell portions is comprised of polypropylene.

16-32. (cancelled)

33. (rejoined and currently amended) A method of making a filter device comprising the steps of

forming a housing for enclosing at least two fluid filtration compartments, said housing comprising at least two longitudinally extending shell portions, one of said longitudinally extending shell portions of the housing describing less than one half of the perimeter of said housing, adjacent filtration compartments being separated from each other by an internal wall,

placing at least one filter membrane having a first surface and a second surface longitudinally in each filtration compartment;

closing said shell portions around said filter membranes to form said fluid filtration compartments;

sealing adjacent edges of said shell portions;

imbedding ends of said filter membranes in a potting compound; and

capping the ends of said housing; said method further comprising providing at least two spaced apart generally planar walls in each fluid filtration compartment, said walls being in a

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parallel relationship to each other and packing a plurality of filter membranes between said walls; said method

~~The method of claim 32~~, further comprising

forming one of said longitudinally extending shell portions from a substantially clear, uncoloured material at at least a boundary thereof,

forming another of said longitudinally extending shell portions of a coloured material at at least a boundary of said another shell portion, and

wherein said step of sealing adjacent edges comprises differential heating of said colored material and said uncoloured material by laser or electromagnetic radiation.

34. (rejoined and currently amended) A method of making a filter device comprising the steps of

forming a housing for enclosing at least two fluid filtration compartments, said housing comprising at least two longitudinally extending shell portions, one of said longitudinally extending shell portions of the housing describing less than one half of the perimeter of said housing, adjacent filtration compartments being separated from each other by an internal wall,

placing at least one filter membrane having a first surface and a second surface longitudinally in each filtration compartment;

closing said shell portions around said filter membranes to form said fluid filtration compartments;

sealing adjacent edges of said shell portions;

imbedding ends of said filter membranes in a potting compound; and

capping the ends of said housing; said method further comprising providing at least two spaced apart generally planar walls in each fluid filtration compartment, said walls being in a parallel relationship to each other and packing a plurality of filter membranes between said walls; said method ~~The method of claim 32~~, further comprising

forming one of said longitudinally extending shell portions from a first material having a first refractive index and

forming another of said longitudinally extending shell portions from a second material having a second refractive index, said first refractive index being different from said second refractive index, and

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wherein said step of sealing adjacent edges comprises differential heating of said first material and said second material by laser or electromagnetic radiation.

35. (rejoined) The method of claim 34 comprising
forming said one of said longitudinally extending shell portions from polycarbonate, and
forming said another of said longitudinally extending shell portions from polypropylene.

36. (original) A filter device comprising
a housing, said housing having
at least two longitudinally extending shell portions
one of said longitudinally extending shell portions having a first optical property
and
another of said shell portions having a second optical property, said first optical property being different from said second optical property,
at least one filter membrane disposed within said housing and extending longitudinally from a first end to a second end of said housing,
end caps closing said ends of said housing, and
at least one access port for introducing fluid into or out of said filter device.

37. (rejoined) The filter device of Claim 36 wherein said optical property is colour.

38. (original) The filter device of Claim 36 wherein said optical property is a refractive index.

39. (original) The filter device of Claim 38 wherein said one of said longitudinally extending shell portions is comprised of polycarbonate and said another of said longitudinally extending shell portions is comprised of polypropylene.

40. (rejoined) The filter device of Claim 36, wherein said longitudinally extending shell portions are welded together.

41. (rejoined) The filter device of Claim 40, wherein said longitudinally extending shell portions are laser welded.

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42. (rejoined) The filter device of Claim 40, wherein said longitudinally extending shell portions are ultrasound welded.

43. (rejoined) The filter device of Claim 36 wherein said housing further comprises an internal wall, said wall separating said housing into first and second compartments, said wall having

a first wall portion extending from said one of said longitudinally extending shell portions and having said first refractive index and

a second wall portion extending from said another of said longitudinally extending shell portions and having said second refractive index, said first wall portion being welded to said second wall portion.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krishnan S. Menon whose telephone number is 571-272-1143. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vickie Kim can be reached on 571-272-0579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Krishnan S Menon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797